



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Press Release

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### Idaho Honey Production Decreased 2 Percent

Idaho honey production in 2012 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 3.07 million pounds, a 2 percent decrease from 2011, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Honey producing colonies are estimated at 96,000 colonies, up 9,000 colonies from last year. Yield per colony averaged 32 pounds, down 4 pounds from 2011. Producer honey stocks were 553,000 pounds on December 15, 2012, a decrease of 71 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound was 161.0 cents, down 17 cents from a year ago.

Nationally, Honey production in 2012 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 147 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2011. There were 2.62 million colonies producing honey in 2012, up 5 percent from 2011. Yield per colony averaged 56.1 pounds, down 6 percent from the 59.6 pounds in 2011. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 32.9 million pounds on December 15, 2012, down 10 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

At the U.S. level, Honey prices increased to a record high during 2012 to 195.1 cents per pound, up 11 percent from 176.5 cents per pound in 2011. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2011 crop reflect honey sold in 2011 and 2012. Some 2011 crop honey was sold in 2012, which caused some revisions to the 2011 crop prices.

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